

Philadelphia Forum on Laboratory Accreditation

Sheraton Society Hill
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
January 29 – February 4, 2005

The Institute for National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation (INELA) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are pleased to announce the **Philadelphia Forum on Laboratory Accreditation**. This is a weeklong event consisting of the Tenth Interim Meeting of the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Conference (NELAC 10i), a meeting of the Environmental Laboratory Advisory Board (ELAB), seminars and training courses, INELA's semi-annual Meeting, and other events. All meetings are fully open to anyone who wishes to participate.

INELA Meeting

INELA will have its semi-annual meeting Monday and Tuesday, January 31st through February 1st. The meeting will contain a special session on Monday morning where INELA's plan for a major restructuring of the current accreditation standard will be presented. This session will also include an update on recent activities of the organization. The remainder of the next two days will be devoted to meetings of the INELA expert and administrative committees, where possible future changes to the INELA standard will be discussed and INELA's plans for helping support the implementation of a national accreditation program will be presented.

ELAB Meeting

ELAB will have a face-to-face meeting with an open forum session on Wednesday morning, February 2nd. Anyone attending the Forum on Laboratory Accreditation is encouraged to attend and bring forth any issues ELAB should consider. ELAB is a Federal Advisory Committee chartered to provide consensus advice on issues associated with enhancing EPA's measurement programs and facilitating the development, establishment, and operation of a national environmental laboratory accreditation program.

NELAC Meeting

The NELAC meetings will be Wednesday afternoon through Friday noon, February 2nd through February 4th. This meeting will contain sessions of the Standards Review Committee, the Proficiency Testing (PT) Board, and other Administrative and Special NELAC committees. Special plenary sessions on plans for NELAC to achieve self-sufficiency and the sections of the NELAC Standard being considered for separation will be held. Other topics of interest to be covered include: the proposed Standards for consideration by the Standards Review Committee, and progress on establishing a Proficiency Testing Oversight Body/ Proficiency Testing Provider Accreditor (PTOB/PTPA).

Training Courses and Seminars

INELA will be sponsoring training courses on Saturday and Sunday, January 28th through 29th. The specific course topics will be announced in early October.

Other Forum Events

On Monday morning, prior to the start of the INELA meeting, a special workshop designed to provide background information to those registered for the Forum will be held. The seminar will provide information on INELA, NELAC, and ELAB, as well as, an overview of the weeks' activities. This seminar is open to anyone attending the Forum.

On Monday evening, the *Opening Reception* for the Forum will be held. On Wednesday evening, a *Reception and Exhibition* to allow participants to meet informally will be held. Both of these events are open to anyone registered for the conference.

Conference Logistics

Hotel: Sheraton Society Hill
One Dock Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106
215-238-6000

Group Rate: \$109

Located in America's most historic square mile, the Sheraton Society Hill is located at Second and Walnut Streets. Just around the corner from Independence Hall, you are steps away from world class restaurants, shopping, galleries, and theaters. The hotel is ten minutes from the airport with easy access to Route 95. Lush landscaping surrounds the hotel and cobblestone streets take you back in time to Colonial Philadelphia.

Airport: Philadelphia International Airport

Registration Fees

Registration Type	INELA Member	Non-member
Full week, full registration	275	295
INELA meeting only	150	175
NELAC meeting only	150	150
Late Fee	50	50
Seminars & Training Courses		
1-Day Seminars	145	170
2-Day Training Courses	325	450
Late Fee	50	50

- On-line registration is available at <http://www.inela.org>
- A brochure with a registration form will be mailed in early October.